

MONTANA
STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MISSOULA, MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

August 15, 1956

R E P O R T
July 1955 - June 1956

The year ended June 30, 1956 has been an eventful one in the history of the State Library Commission. At long last there was a budget large enough to permit employment of a Library Consultant. For this post the Commission was fortunate to secure the services of Mrs. Catherine S. Chadwick who joined the staff August 8th. Coming to Montana from Kern County, California, with a background of experience in extension library service and public relations, she quickly adapted herself to the new position. Although supervision of the headquarters office restricted her activities to some extent, she was able to do considerable traveling, meeting with the librarians and getting acquainted with conditions of the state. She concentrated her field work in the western part of the state and emphasized the need for cooperation among libraries in the region, in order to make their work more effective and satisfying. In all her contacts she was paving the way for implementation of the Library Services Act, which was passed by Congress and signed by the President on June 19.

In September the Secretary left Missoula to enroll in the University of Illinois Library School to work on a Master's degree. She spent a busy and stimulating nine months, completing her course and receiving her degree on June 16. The courses she took, all on the graduate level, included Cataloging, Bibliography of Science and Technology, Bibliography of Literature and the Humanities, Administration, Larger Units of Library Service, Rural Sociology, Communications, and Adult Education.

In December came the big move - from the University Library, whose hospitality the Commission had enjoyed for ten years, to somewhat less satisfactory quarters in a World War I temporary building. Mrs. Chadwick directed the operation and reports that the staff was most cooperative and loyal. She deserves special commendation for a difficult job well done.

Then was born the dream of permanent quarters in Helena, with plans drawn up for an addition to the Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building. Since the Legislature may authorize expenditure of funds from the Capitol Land Grant Fund for the purpose, it seems hopeful that the dream may become a reality. There will be definite advantages in locating the Commission at the Capitol. Helena is more centrally located, business procedures will be expedited, and the Commission will become better known throughout the state.

STATISTICAL REPORT

CIRCULATION	Juvenile	Adult
Non-fiction	4,481	4,037
Fiction	<u>19,551</u>	<u>4,622</u>
Total	24,032	8,659
Grand Total.....		32,691
Interlibrary Loan		659
Film		1

BOOK COLLECTION

July 1, 1955	24,374
Books added	2,629
June 30, 1956	26,103

FINANCES

\$177.68 Balance

PERMANENT STAFF

Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary
 Catherine S. Chadwick, Library Consultant
 Florena I. Vinal, Headquarters Librarian
 Fay McPherson, Stenographer

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson
 Ellen Torgrimson,
 Secretary